

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 00652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, ETEL, IMCO

SUBJ: INMARSAT CONFERENCE, SECOND SESSION: INTERIM

ARRANGEMENTS

REF: LONDON 2570

SUMMARY. WORKING GROUP STUDYING INTERIM ARRANGEMENTS
HELD FIRST SESSION FEBRUARY 18. END SUMMARY

1. ALTHOUGH THERE WAS AGREEMENT THAT SOME WORK
PROBABLY OUGHT TO BE DONE PRIOR TO FIRST COUNCIL MEETING,
BOTH THE ROLE OF SIGNATORIES AND THE WORK TO BE UNDERTAKEN
PROMPTED LENGTHLY DISCUSSION. CONFERENCE DOCUMENT 20 (TRANSMITTED LONDON 2327) IS MAJOR PAPER FOR
WG DISCUSSION. DRAFTERS OF THAT DOCUMENT READILY AGREED
WITH US REP THAT IT WAS DEFICIENT IN THAT IT DID NOT
RECOGNIZE SUBSTANTIAL INTEREST OF SIGNATORIES IN
INTERIM WORK, AND THAT SIGNATORIES TO LARGEST EXTENT
POSSIBLE SHOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR WORK. WG THEN
BEGAN CONSIDERATION OF WHAT WORK OUGHT TO BE DONE,
THE TIME PERIOD, AND THE SPECIFIC PARTICIPANTS.

2. WITH RESPECT TO WORK TO BE UNDERTAKEN, IT WAS
AGREED THAT IT WOULD ALL BE OF A DRAFT CHARACTER AND
NOT BINDING ON INMARSAT OR THE COUNCIL. CERTAIN ADMINISTRATIVE
MATTERS WERE IDENTIFIED, E.G., ORGANIZATION,

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STRATIVE MATTERS WERE IDENTIFIED, E.G., ORGANIZATION,

STRUCTURE, STAFF REGULATIONS, AS WELL AS CONTACTS, BUT NOT NEGOTIATIMN, WITH HOST COUNTRY REGARDING HEAD-QUARTERS AGREEMENT. IT WAS ALSO THOUGHT CONSIDERATION SHOULD BE GIVEN TO THE TASKS WHICH MIGHT CONTRACTED TO A MANAGEMENT SERVICES CONTRACTOR, AND THAT THERE SHOULD BE STUDY OF THE ORGANIZATION'S FACILITIES OPTIONS.

3. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT CONVENTION AND OPERATING AGREEMENT WOULD NOT COME INTO FORCE UNTIL 2 1/2 OR 3 YEARS AFTER OPENING FOR SIGNATURE. GIVEN THIS TIME PERIOD WG WAS OF VIEW THAT INTERIM WORK PROBABLY NEED NOT START BEFORE EARLY 1977. IT WAS FURTHER AGREED THAT PARTICIPANTS SHOULD BE THOSE GOVERNMENTS ALD ENTITIES WHICH HAD DEMONSTRATED IN SOME FASHION AN INTENTION TO JOIN INMARSAT. THIS MIGHT BE BY SIGNATURE OF THE AGREEMENTS, SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION IF NECESSARY, OR A SIMPLE DECLARATION OF AN INTENT TO DO SO.

4. FURTHER EXAMINATION OF WORK PROGRAM, TOGETHER WITH EXAMINATION OF FUNDING AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO INTERIM GROUP'S OPERATIONS WILL BE DISCUSSED FEB 19.

5. IMCO SECRETARIAT INFORMED WG THAT IT HAD ALL ALONG ASSUMED INMARSAT HEADQUARTERS WOULD NOT ONLY BE LOCATED IN LONDON BUT INTEGRATED INTO NEW BUILDING TO BE CONSTRUATED FOR IMCO. THERE WAS NO DISCUSSION THIS MATTER EXCEPT TO NOTE THAT IF CONVENTION DID NOT SPECIFY WHERE HEADQUARTERS WOULD BE, THEN IT WOULD HAVE TO OUTLINE A PROCEDURE FOR THE COUNCIL AND/OR THE ASSEMBLY TO MAKE SUCH A DECISION.

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